



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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RANUNCULUS VERECUNDUS **TIMBERLINE BUTTERCUP**

Timberline Buttercup is a perennial with slender roots and several erect stems that are 7-20 cm high. Each basal leaf has a long petiole and a broadly spade-shaped blade that is 1-2 cm long and palmately lobed, with the principle lobes extending nearly to the midvein. The 1-3 sessile stem leaves are smaller and have 3-5 narrow lobes. Foliage is glabrous to sparsely short-hairy above. The 1-5 long-stalked flowers have 5 yellowish, hairy sepals that are 3-5 mm long; these fall shortly after they open. The 5 yellow petals are 4-5 mm long. The 30-70 glabrous achenes are ca. 1 mm long, have a curved beak that is 0.5 mm long, and are borne in a cylindrical cluster. Flowering in June-August, fruiting in August.

Distinguished from *RANUNCULUS PEDATIFIDUS* by small petals only 4-5 mm long, and from *R. CARDIOPHYLLUS* by deeply lobed basal leaves.